AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-30. (canceled).

31. (currently amended) The method of Claims 34 or 35, wherein the heat shock polypeptide is ~~derived~~ isolated or cloned from a bacterium.

32. (previously presented) The method of Claim 31, wherein the bacterium is a Mycobacterium.

33. (previously presented) The method of Claim 32, wherein the Mycobacterium is *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*.

34. (currently amended) A method of relieving pain comprising administering, to a subject in need thereof, a heat shock polypeptide or a nucleotide molecule encoding a heat shock polypeptide,

wherein the heat shock polypeptide is a chaperonin,

wherein the nucleotide molecule comprises:

(i) at least one nucleotide sequence ~~selected from~~ comprising one or more of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NOs: 1, 3, and 5, or

(ii) a sequence which has at least 66% identity to sequence (i), or

(iii) a fragment of sequence (i) or (ii) encoding a functionally equivalent polypeptide fragment wherein the functionally equivalent polypeptide fragment is from 3 to 400 residues in length.

35. (currently amended) A method of relieving pain comprising administering, to a subject in need thereof, a heat shock polypeptide or a nucleotide molecule encoding a heat shock polypeptide,

wherein the heat shock polypeptide is a chaperonin,

wherein the polypeptide comprises:

(i) at least one amino acid sequence ~~selected from~~ comprising one or more of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NOs: 2, 4, and 6, or

(ii) a sequence which has at least 60% identity to sequence (i) or

(iii) a functionally equivalent fragment of sequence (i) or (ii) wherein the functionally equivalent fragment is from 3 to 400 residues in length.

36. (canceled).

37. (currently amended) The method of Claim ~~36~~35, wherein the functionally equivalent fragment is from 3 to 100 residues in length.

38. (previously presented) The method of Claim 34, wherein the nucleotide molecule encodes a functionally equivalent polypeptide fragment.

39. (previously presented) The method of Claim 34 or 35, wherein said heat shock polypeptide or said nucleotide molecule is administered in a composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable excipent, diluent or carrier.

40. (previously presented) The method of Claim 34 or 35, wherein said heat shock polypeptide or said nucleotide molecule is administered in a composition comprising at least one additive for assisting or augmenting the pain relief action by the nucleotide molecule or polypeptide.

41. (previously presented) The method of Claim 40, wherein the additive is selected from at least one member of the group consisting of paracetamol, aspirin, ibuprofen, another non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID), a cylooxygenase-2-selective inhibitor (CSI), and an opiate.

42. (previously presented) The method of Claim 40, wherein the composition provides prolonged or sustained pain relief.

43. (previously presented) The method of Claim 34 or 35, wherein said heat shock polypeptide or nucleotide molecule encoding a heat shock polypeptide are administered in single or divided doses at a daily dosage level of from 0.0001 to 100,000 mg.

44. (previously presented) The method of Claim 43, wherein said daily dosage level is from 0.0001 to 1000 mg.

45. (previously presented) The method of Claim 43, wherein the divided doses are administered between six and twelve hours apart.

46. (previously presented) The method of Claim 45, wherein the divided doses are administered between nine and twelve hours apart.

47. (previously presented) The method of Claim 43, wherein the divided doses are administered between twelve hours and twelve days apart.

48. (previously presented) The method of Claim 43, wherein the divided doses are administered between twelve days and six months apart.

49. (previously presented) The method of Claim 39, wherein the composition is formulated to permit administration by at least one route selected from the group consisting of intranasal, oral, parenteral, topical, ophthalmic, suppository, pessary and inhalation.

50. (previously presented) The method of Claim 49, wherein the composition is formulated to permit administration by inhalation.

51. (previously presented) The method of Claim 34 or 35, wherein the subject is a human or animal.

52. (previously presented) The method of Claim 51, wherein the subject is a human.

53. (previously presented) The method of Claim 34 or 35, wherein the pain is due to at least one member selected from the group consisting of backache, headache, toothache, earache, arthritis, gout, soft tissue trauma, ligament/tendon traumatic damage, a broken bone, cancer, post operative pain, menstrual pain, obstetric pain, renal tract pain, visceral pain, a burn, an abscess and an infection.